GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3380
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2016
Study on Polluted Rivers
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study with regard to polluted rivers in the country;
(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
(c) whether the Government has taken any steps for rejuvenation of rivers particularly Yamuna river; and
(d) if so, the details thereof

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) and (b) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has conducted a study on polluted rivers in the country and published a report in February 2015. As per the report, 302 polluted river stretches have been identified on 275 rivers based on Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels, a key indicator of organic pollution. The State-wise details are at Annexure.

(c) and (d) It is the responsibility of the State Governments / concerned local bodies to set up proper facilities for collection, transportation and treatment of sewage being generated and ensure that untreated sewage does not fall into the rivers. The Ministry has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) programmes, for implementation of projects on cost sharing basis between Central and State Governments. The NGRBA programme along with work of Ganga & its tributaries is with Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR,RD&GR) from 01/08/2014 onwards. The programmes of NRCP & NGRBA (till 31/07/2014) have covered polluted stretches of 43 rivers in 200 towns spread over 21 states, at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 12202.59 crore so far. Sewage treatment capacity of 5169 mld has been created so far under these two programmes.

Financial assistance has been provided to the states of Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Haryana for pollution abatement of river Yamuna under Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) in a phased manner since 1993. JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) is providing loan assistance for taking up works under YAP, which relate to sewerage/interception and diversion of drains, sewage treatment plants (STPs), low cost sanitation/community toilet complexes, electric/improved wood crematoria, etc. A total expenditure of Rs. 1514.70 crore (including State share) has been incurred on the sanctioned schemes under YAP Phase-I & Phase-II in the 3 States and sewage treatment capacity of 942.25 million litres per day (mld) has been created.

The JICA assisted YAP Phase - III project for Delhi has been approved at an estimated cost of Rs 1656 crore. Under the project, Delhi Jal Board (DJB) is implementing rehabilitation of existing trunk sewers and rising mains, upgradation/ modernization of existing 7 STPs with a total treatment capacity of 814 mld and construction of a new 136 mld STP (in place of the old STP). The project is scheduled for completion by December, 2018. Till date, Central share of Rs. 9.96 crore has been released for the project and total expenditure of Rs. 14.58 crore (including State share) has been incurred by DJB.

In addition, the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), Haryana is implementing two projects costing Rs. 217.87 crore for pollution abatement of river Yamuna in towns of Sonepat and Panipat from internal budgetary resources of the Government. Sewage treatment capacity of 25 mld has been created so far in Panipat under the project. Till date, Rs. 125.66 crore of Central share has been released towards implementation of these two projects.

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